

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (New): A data input device comprising:

plural keys, said keys being arranged in at least two rows, wherein

a unidirectional position detector is associated with each row of keys, each unidirectional position detector comprising a first input connection, a second input connection, and an output connection,

the output connections of the unidirectional position detectors are connected at various locations to a first ohmic resistor, and

the first input connections are connected to a first terminal of the data input device and the second input connections are connected to a second terminal of the data input device.

Claim 18 (New): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein said first ohmic resistor comprises a strip of resistive material, said output connections of the unidirectional position detectors being connected at various locations to said strip of resistive material.

Claim 19 (New): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein said first ohmic resistor comprises a series layout of a plurality of discrete resistors, said output connections of the unidirectional position detectors being connected to the series layout at various locations between discrete resistors.

Claim 20 (New): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the unidirectional position detector comprises a plurality of discrete switches, said switches being connected on

a first side to the output connection of the position detector and on a second side at various locations to a second ohmic resistor, said second ohmic resistor being connected between the first and second input connections of the position detector.

Claim 21 (New): The device as claimed in claim 20, wherein said second ohmic resistor comprises a strip of resistive material, said switches being connected at various locations to said strip of resistive material.

Claim 22 (New): The device as claimed in claim 20, wherein said second ohmic resistor comprises a series layout of a plurality of discrete resistors, said switches being connected to the series layout at various locations between discrete resistors.

Claim 23 (New): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the unidirectional position detector comprises a sensor in a form of a voltage divider, said voltage divider comprising:

- a second ohmic resistor extending substantially along the row of keys of the keyboard;

- conducting lines extending from the second ohmic resistor and arranged at a certain distance from one another;

- a comb-like conductor, whose teeth are arranged in an interdigital manner between said conducting lines; and

- an activation layer made of semiconducting material,

wherein the comb-like conductor is connected to the output connection of the position detector and the second ohmic resistor is connected between the two input connections of the position detector.

Claim 24 (New): The device as claimed in claim 23, wherein the second ohmic resistor of the voltage divider-like sensor is a nonlinear resistor.

Claim 25 (New): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the unidirectional position detector comprises:

sensors in a form of a voltage divider, said voltage divider-like sensors being laid out in series, wherein each said voltage divider comprises:

a second ohmic resistor extending substantially along the row of keys of the keyboard,

conducting lines extending from the second ohmic resistor and arranged at a certain distance from one another,

a comb-like conductor, whose teeth are arranged in an interdigital manner between said conducting lines, and

an activation layer made of semiconductor material.

Claim 26 (New): The device as claimed in claim 25, wherein the second ohmic resistor of the voltage divider-like sensor is a nonlinear resistor.

Claim 27 (New): The device as claimed in claim 17, further comprising at least one third ohmic resistor wired between said first ohmic resistor and the respective terminal of the data input device, said third ohmic resistor being short-circuitable with aid of a bypass circuit including a switch.

Claim 28 (New): The device as claimed in claim 20, further comprising at least one third ohmic resistor wired between said second ohmic resistor and the respective terminal of the data input device, said third ohmic resistor being short-circuitable with aid of a bypass circuit including a switch.

Claim 29 (New): The device as claimed in claim 23, further comprising at least one third ohmic resistor wired between said second ohmic resistor and the respective terminal of the data input device, said third ohmic resistor being short-circuitable with aid of a bypass circuit including a switch.

Claim 30 (New): The device as claimed in claim 17, further comprising at least one series layout of a fourth ohmic resistor and of a switch, said series layout being wired in parallel to said first ohmic resistor.

Claim 31 (New): The device as claimed in claim 20, further comprising at least one series layout of a fourth ohmic resistor and of a switch, said series layout being wired in parallel to said first ohmic resistor.

Claim 32 (New): The device as claimed in claim 23, further comprising at least one series layout of a fourth ohmic resistor and of a switch, said series layout being wired in parallel to said first ohmic resistor.

Claim 33 (New): The device as claimed in claim 20, wherein at least two discrete switches are disposed at a distance such that alternate or simultaneous actuation of the two discrete switches is possible using a single control element.

Claim 34 (New): The device as claimed in claim 25, wherein at least two voltage divider-like sensors are disposed at a distance such that alternate or simultaneous actuation of the two voltage divider-like sensors is possible using a single control element.

Claim 35 (New): The device as claimed in claim 23, wherein virtual keys are defined for a voltage divider-like sensor by associating a certain range of resistance with each of the keys, and wherein at least two keys are defined in such a way as to be physically disposed at a distance such that alternate or simultaneous actuation of the two keys is possible using a single control element.

Claim 36 (New): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least two unidirectional position detectors are disposed at a distance such that alternate or simultaneous actuation of the two position detectors is possible using a single control element.

Claim 37 (New): The device as claimed in claim 20, wherein said discrete switches of plural unidirectional position detectors are connected to one end and a same second ohmic resistor.